

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DURBAN 00091 080725Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01

TRSE-00 DHA-02 /068 W

-----080915Z 068177 /23 10

R 020800Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2505

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS DURBAN 0091

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PORS, SHUM, SF (TRANSKEI)

SUBJECT: PROPOSED SECURITY LEGISLATION IN TRANSKEI

REFS: A. 76 DURBAN -78, B. 76 DURBAN 388, C. 76

DURBAN 365, D. 76 DURBAN 538

1. AS FORECAST EARLIER (REF. A), TRANSKEI PRIME MINISTER MATANZIMA HAS INDICATED HE INTENDS TO INTRODUCE NEW SECURITY LEGISLATION IN NEXT SESSION OF PARLIAMENT. LEGISLATION WOULD MAKE IT A TREASONABLE OFFENSE FOR ANYONE TO QUESTION SOVEREIGNTY OF TRANSKEI OR ARGUE THAT TRANSKEI SHOULD FALL UNDER ANY OTHER INDEPENDENT STATE. PROPOSED ACT WOULD BE RETROACTIVE TO INDEPENDENCE (OCTOBER 26, 1976) "SO THAT PERSONS WHO HAVE ALREADY MADE SUCH TREASONABLE STATEMENTS WILL BE LIABLE FOR PROSECUTION". DEATH PENALTY COULD BE INVOKED FOR SUCH OFFENSES.

2. PROPOSED ACT WOULD BE PART OF A GENERAL LAW

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TO REPLACE TRANSKEI'S NOTORIOUS CURRENT EMERGENCY REGULATION--"PROCLAMATION 400". GIVEN MATANXIMA'S TIGHT CONTROL OF PARLIAMENT, NEW LAW IS CERTAIN TO BE ENACTED. SOUTH AFRIAN REACTION TO THELEGISLATION HAS BEEN STRONG IN THE ENGLISH PRESS AND AMONG PRP AND UP POLITICIANS SUCH AS HELEN SUZMAN AND NATAL UP LEADER RADCLYFFE CADMAN. MATANZIMA REACTED TO THEIR

CRITICISM BY SUGGESTING THEY "KEEP TO THEIR OWN COUNTRY". WHITE SOUTH AFRICAN NEWSMEN COVERING THE TRANSKEI HAVE REPORTED SOME OPPOSITION TO THIS MEASURE FROM SEVERAL SOURCES. FORMER OPPOSITION LEADER, KNOWLEDGE GUZANA, STATED THE LEGISLATION STIFLES DISSENT AND POINTS UP THE NEED FOR A TRANSKEI BILL OF RIGHTS. OTHER POLITICIANS AND CIVIL SERVANTS, NOT QUOTED BY NAME, REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE NEW REPRESSIVE LEGISLATION WOULD FURTHER HARM TRANSKEI'S IMAGE ABROAD.

3. CONCURRENTLY WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF LEGISLATION, MATANZIMA RELEASED FROM DETENTION EIGHT POLITICAL FIGURES DETAINED SINCE JULY 1976 (REFS. B AND C). FIVE OF THOSE RELEASED ARE TOP FIGURES IN THE FORMER TRANSKEI DEMOCRATIC PARTY, INCLUDING H. NCOKAZI, THE PARTY'S LEADER, W. PUPUMA, L. MGUDLWA, C. PIHASHE AND P. FODANA, THE PARTY'S NATIONAL SECRETARY. AT LEAST THREE DEMOCRATIC PARTY FIGURES REMAIN IN DETENTION. FODANA WAS RE-ARRESTED ONLY TWO WEEKS AFTER RELEASE, APPARENTLY FOR CONTINUING TO ADVOCATE BELIEF THAT TRANSKEI BELONGS IN A NON-RACIAL SOUTH AFRICA.

4. COMMENT: MORE INTIMIDATION OF POLITICAL OPPONENTS AND STIFFER INTERNAL SECURITY CONTROLS SEEM IN THE OFFING ONCE THIS LEGISLATION IS APPROVED. A ONE-PARTY, TOTALITARIAN SCENARIO SEEMS TO BE UNFOLDING IN TRANSKEI DESPITE MATANZIMA'S EARLIER ASSERTIONS THAT

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HE DOES NOT WANT TO SEE TRANSKEI DEVELOP IN THIS DIRECTION (REF D).
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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TAGS: PINS, PINT, PORS, SHUM, SF, (MATANZIMA)
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